

WORKER'S DAY IN ENGLAND

Rides to Factory in Taxi and Buys Lavishly, While the Rich Pay Taxes.

QUITE A CHANGE FOR BRITAIN

(Correspondence of the Associated Press) LONDON, Nov. 8.—How completely the war has baffled the foresight of economic experts is shown by the remarkable wave of surface prosperity which the masses of Great Britain are experiencing. Only a little more than year ago political economists were discussing a loudly the need for organizing public works on a great scale for the tens of thousands who would be thrown out of employment. Now financiers like Sir George Paish, editor of the Economist, and Edwin Montagu, the financial secretary of the treasury, are sounding strong warnings against the extravagant living of the nation as a whole. "Money is being squandered on all sides," declared Sir George Paish in a recent speech, and the newspapers are taking up the same cry.

Money Used Lavishly. The conditions which the war has developed, have settled the problem of public works on lines which apparently were not foreseen. The enormous increase of the British army to 3,000,000 men, and the demand for workers in the public and private munitions works, has absorbed all the available manhood of the country procurable on a basis of voluntary service, and given a great surplus of employment to the United States. Money is being discharged freely, and even lavishly and extravagantly to contractors and to workmen, and for the support of the families of soldiers according to the economists, and it is being spent by the people at large with equal lavishness and extravagance.

These conditions cause excited debate by all classes. In the enormous redistribution of wealth the general gift would appear to be from the hands of the rich and the middle classes into the pockets of the workmen and the families of soldiers. While the workers furnish a majority of the men under arms, the people with large estates and those with savings and middle class incomes believe that they furnish, through taxation and war loans, the bulk of the money which is carrying on the war, and which finds its way down through the government and contractors to the small merchants and workmen.

Some Are Saving. This results in the enforcement of unusual economy upon the wealthy and the middle classes, (except those concerned in war work, who are many), and encourages unusually free spending in the stratum usually most economical. While the Covent Garden opera has been suspended during the war time the theaters of the masses, and the picture shows are prospering. The hotels and restaurants supported by the wealthy pass their dividends; the popular resorts are doing good business. Tailors and fashionable dressmakers claim to be suffering great depression, but the wives and daughters of workmen are dressed better than ever before in their lives. Wine merchants are putting up their shutters, but the public houses where beer and gin are consumed are crowded.

More Pianos Sold. Mr. Montagu complained of great spending on luxuries, and cited the fact that the sale of pianos has increased. He called upon every citizen to be prepared to put at least one half his current income at the disposal of the state. The wealthy classes of England would not agree that the luxury and extravagance charge is practiced by them. No observer could fail to credit them with accepting the enormous war taxes imposed upon incomes with a remarkable patriotism and resignation.

Speaking for the other side of the case, Sir Alfred Wood, a wealthy manufacturer, told the House of Commons that men from the agricultural districts who formerly earned \$4 a week are getting \$15 and \$20 from the government, and men are being paid \$2 a day for putting up huts for the soldiers. Annan Bryce, brother of the former ambassador to America, testified that boys who formerly worked for \$2 a week are being paid by the government more than \$10 for carrying the bags of government carpenters.

Workers Use Taxis. A writer in the Daily Mail says: "I met a man who without any previous experience as a craftsman, was earning from \$5 to \$8 a week (\$30 to \$40) making shell cases in a certain government munitions factory. I am told that workmen in Birmingham now drive up their daily task in taxicabs, and that in that fortunate city the shops are doing a trade in expensive luxuries such as has never been known before."

Wasteful Contracts. Extravagant payments to contractors, and to buyers and experts who have been taken into government employ, is a complaint against the government levied by many business men. Corruption is not charged, but high and wasteful disbursements due to ignorance of business affairs on the part of officials, and the necessity for making hurried contracts. The country would not suffer so much from these conditions if it was self-contained like Germany and money merely flowed in a circle from the government into the hands of the people back to the government in taxes and loans. But Britain is importing enormous quantities of goods for the use of the people, beside war supplies, and the exports do not balance the imports by many millions.

Advocates of economy in the popular press take advantage of the opportunity to call upon the government for reinforcement. The office of lord chancellor alone, with almost nominal duties, is costing \$125,000 a year. Lord Buckmaster, recently the head of the press bureau, is drawing the salary of \$50,000, while his predecessor, Lord Haldane, and two other former incumbents of the office are receiving pensions of \$25,000 each. The two law officers of the crown, the attorney general and the solicitor general, are compensated chiefly by fees which amount to about \$100,000 for each official. Several cabinet ministers draw salaries of \$25,000. The payment of \$2,000 salaries to members of the House of Commons is a comparatively new law. The writers for the newspaper which circulate among the working classes call upon government officials to set the example in responding to Mr. Montagu's appeal to citizens to place half their incomes at the disposal of the government.

BURGLARY ALIBI DOES NOT SAVE MURDERERS

DANVILLE, Ill., Feb. 26.—"Big John" Murphy and Milton Armstrong, negroes, were found guilty of murder by a jury here today and sentenced to the penitentiary for ninety-nine years each for murdering two Green track workers. Murphy and Armstrong set up an alibi, claiming they were robbing a store in Champagn at the time of the murder.

Modern Venus Found in Chicago by Sculptor



MISS JOSEPHINE A. HUDDLESTON.

The ideal American girl for sculptural purposes has been located in Chicago. She has been long searched for by American sculptors. She is Miss Josephine A. Huddleston of No. 20 West Goethe street. She was selected from among nearly 1,000 candidates as the model from whose form and features will be moulded the monument to be erected on the Dixie highway, near the "Mason-Dixon line," symbolical of American womanhood "of the north."

Compared with the ancient Greek womanhood, the famous Venus de Milo, Miss Huddleston measures as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Measurement and Value. Measurements include Height (5 ft. 4.3 in.), Neck (12.5 in.), Chest (normal 34.2 in., full 36.2 in.), and Waist (25.9 in.).

Older Men Are the Favorites with the Officers in Europe

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) VIENNA, Feb. 26.—The calling to the colors of men between the ages of 50 and 65 has caused the discussion in the Austro-Hungarian press of what the older men have done in this war. The view had been generally held that the man at 50 had passed into old age, so far as military value was concerned, but the war is said to have proven that this position is untenable.

It is admitted that in trades and occupations requiring physical dexterity, the man over 50 is apt to be a failure, though the well-preserved worker of that age is generally still capable of great endurance. The experience in the army is that men up to 30 are generally less hardy than men up to 50. In addition to being as yet far from physically set, that is, entirely beyond the growing stage, the younger men often reduce their endurance and physical vigor generally by incorrect eating habits. Older men are not in the habit of doing this, it is asserted. But the young men sin also in other respects. Often they are indifferent to hardship when they should not be; while the older men see to it that their feet are always dry and warm, the younger soldiers overlook this habitually.

With the officers the older soldier is the favorite. Not only does he give less trouble to the sanitary department, but his ripper mind understands more readily the purposes and necessity of military discipline. An Austrian colonel with whom this subject was discussed said that older troops needed little application of discipline, because their natural conduct as grown men was discipline in itself. He had seen no difference in the fighting qualities of young and older troops, he said, but he himself would always prefer to lead men over the age of 35. Of very young troops the colonel had a poor opinion. In trench warfare their value was not high. Constant reiteration of commands and orders was the lot of the officer who commanded young troops while the officer in charge of older troops could count on having orders carried out as soon as they were given. The old men, too, fought with more sense, said the colonel. They did not shout so much, but dealt out heavier blows. Excepting bone fractures and very serious internal wounds, the old soldier gives no more trouble than the young one to the medical service. Authorities are of the opinion that the smaller percentage of sick among the older troops counterbalances wholly what little surgical difficulty they give.

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EQUAL RIGHTS FOR WOMEN

Measure Looking to Near Approach of Universal Suffrage in the Netherlands.

TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) THE HAGUE, Netherlands, Jan. 5.—A step in the direction of accorded political rights to Dutch women is taken in a bill to amend the Netherlands constitution at The Hague by Premier Cort van der Linden. The bill, which has yet to be voted on, does not actually give women the ballot, but removes the constitutional obstacles hitherto placed in the way of their right to vote. Should it pass, then the electoral law will have to be amended before women are really enabled to exercise the political franchise.

The proposed constitutional amendment goes even farther than recognizing women's right to vote. It also includes their right to be elected, a concession which had not been looked for at this stage.

Dutch women, although welcoming the suggested reform, are inclined to display dissatisfaction with the limitations of the franchise they may ultimately obtain under its provisions, and in their discontent they are joined by the men, who suffer from the same restrictions.

Conditions are Proposed. The basis of the Dutch constitution is that men (and under the proposed amendment, also women) of 25 years of age are entitled to vote for the 100 members of the second chamber, which is the direct representative body for the people of the Netherlands. The attainment of the age of 25 is, however, not all that is necessary. The would-be voter must be able to prove that he (or she) has a certain minimum yearly income, varying according to the locality from \$10 to \$25—the latter in big cities such as Rotterdam and Amsterdam. Besides this, there are exceptions made against persons who receive municipal assistance under the poor laws and naturally also against criminals and lunatics, while soldiers and sailors under a certain rank are prohibited from voting while on service with the colors.

These various disabilities affect nearly 50,000 of the Dutch men of 25 years of age—the approximate figures for the Netherlands being 1,467,000 men qual-

ified by age, of whom only 1,014,600 have votes.

As is pointed out by Mrs. Aletta Jacobs, president of the Women's Suffrage association of Holland, "the present composition of society offers no obstacles to the immediate granting of the right to vote to all women." She, however, argues that the limitation under the constitution would permit very few women to vote, for in most cases they have no separate incomes. She is of the opinion that the vote should be given to all mental and morally sound persons of both sexes without any property restrictions.

Other Dutch women in the van of the women's movement assert the proposed constitutional reform is a happy result of the agitation recently carried on by women of all countries, but still others are of opinion that the war has done more to awaken the self-confidence of women than all their strivings on the platform and has compelled men to learn the lesson that woman is a part of the political fabric. They argue that while the men have been occupied in fighting or, as in the Netherlands, guarding the neutrality of the country against attack, woman has shown she can fill their places in other spheres of life equally important for the public welfare.

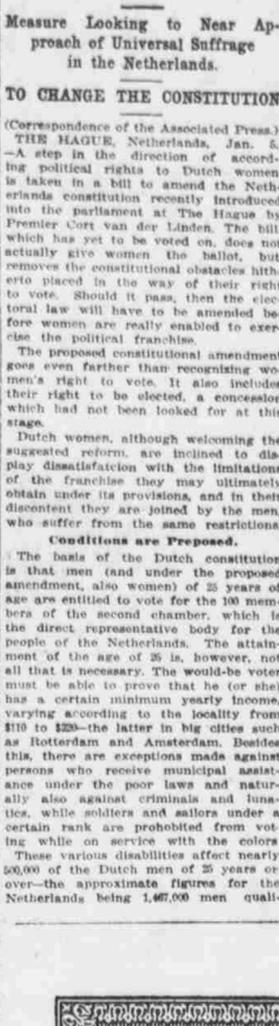
All political parties in the Netherlands appear to have become more or less reconciled to the demand for and need of some such reform in favor of women as that proposed by the premier, and the nation awaits with interest the outcome of the debates in the chambers.

Base Ball May Be Dropped at Central

Base ball may be abandoned at the Central High school on account of the large expense connected with it and the lack of interest shown. Fred Spinning, the base ball coach, and Coach Mulligan are in favor of having a team but it does not seem to interest the other members of the board. "Teddy" Grove, who has starred on foot ball and basket ball teams this year, was elected captain of this year's team at the close of last year's base ball season, but is wondering now if he will be captain of anything after all.

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